

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 CU-04 AID-05 /070 W

-----004604 240148Z /73

R 231714Z DEC 77

FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5209

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAGUA 5800

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, NU, PINT

SUBJECT: STUDENT POLITICAL ACTIVITY

REF: MANAGUA 5786

SUMMARY: FOLLOWING A HIATUS IN POLITICAL ACTIVITY, STUDENTS LED BY THE STUDENT REVOLUTIONARY FRONT (FER) HAVE LAUNCHED DEMONSTRATIONS INCLUDING OCCUPATION OF CHURCHES. END SUMMARY

1. DURING THE MID-OCTOBER FSLN ATTACKS THE STUDENTS WERE RELATIVELY QUIET, PARTIALLY BECAUSE THEY WERE IN A PERIOD OF EXAMINATIONS AND FACATIONS. IT HAS ONLY BEEN DURING THE LAST FEW WEEKS THAT STUDENTS HAVE REINITIATED POLITICAL MANIFESTATIONS. THEY HAVE MARCHED ON THE INFORMATION AND PRESS SECRETARIAT CALLING FOR ABOLITION OF THE TELEVISION AND RADIO CODE AND, AS THEY DID EARLIER IN THE YEAR, HAVE OCCUPIED NUMEROUS CHURCHES IN MANAGUA AND OTHER CITIES DEMANDING AMNESTY FOR POLITICAL PRISONERS BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAAR.

2. THE STUDENT MARCH TO THE INFORMATION AND PRESS SECRETARIAT WAS WITHOUT INCIDENT. THE OCCUPATION OF THE CHURCHES, HOWEVER, HAS BEEN CONFIDENTIAL

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TROUBLED. THE NATIONAL GUARD APPARENTLY HAS THE SAME INSTRUCTIONS AS IN THE PAST TO NOT ATTEMPT TO FORCE THE YOUTH OUT OF THE CHURCHES UNLESS REQUESTED TO DO SO BY ECCLESIASTICAL AUTHORITIES. THE CHURCH IS NOT PREPARED TO MAKE ANY SUCH REQUEST. HOWEVER, THE GN APPARENTLY CONSIDERS ANY CROWDS OF PEOPLE SUPPORTING THE OCCUPATIONS TO BE FAIR GAME. IN THREE CASES IN MANAGUA THE GN HAS REPORTEDLY USED TEAR GAS TO DISPERSE CROWDS NEAR THE CHURCHES. WHEN THE PEOPLE HAVE

DISPERSED, THE GN HAS PURSUED AND DETAINED ANYONE THEY CAN CATCH FOR IDENTIFICATION. IN ONE CASE REPORTED SEPTEL THE GN CLUBBED WITH RIFLE BUTTS PERSONS THEY BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN SUPPORTING THE OCCUPANTS OF THE CHURCH. IN ANOTHER CASE STUDENTS OCCUPYING A CHURCH REPORTEDLY ABANDONED IT WHEN TEAR GAS ENTERED THE CHURCH.

3. THESE CURRENT STUDENT ACTIVITIES ARE APPARENTLY ORGANIZED BY THE REVOLUTIONARY STUDENT FEDERATION (FER) WHICH SUPPORTS THE REVOLUTIONARY ACTIVITIES OF THE FSLN GUERRILLAS. IT IS NOT SURPRISING THE STUDENTS HAVE RESUMED POLITICAL ACTIVISM BUT IT WAS SURPRISING THEY WERE ON THE SIDELINES FOR SO LONG.
RUBENSTEIN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: STUDENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 23-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771222/aaaaasdq.tel
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SAS ID: 139984
Secure: OPEN
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Subject: STUDENT POLITICAL ACTIVITY
TAGS: PINS, PINT, NU
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